

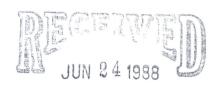
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Norman H. Bangerter, Governor Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director William H. Geer, Division Director

Southeastern Region • 455 West Railroad Avenue • Price, UT 84501-2829 • 801-637-3310

June 20, 1988

John Niebergal Ferron District Ranger Manti-LaSal National Forest P.O. Box 310 Ferron, UT 84523



OIL, LAS & MINING

Dear John:

In regards to Beaver Creek Coal Company's proposal for nine (9) drill holes on Trail Mountain, the following is offered for your consideration. The project area represents high-priority valued summer range for deer and critical valued winter range for elk. Our primary concern for deer revolves around the May 15 through July 5 parturition period. Elk would utilize the winter range from December 1 through April 15. Deer would also winter in the project area during moderate to light snowfall years. It is recommended that the aforementioned periods be disapproved for exploration activity.

It is also recommended that during the general elk season a cessation of drilling associated activity occur five days prior to the hunt, during the first five days of the opening for the hunt, as well as two days during the second week of the hunt.

For hunting during the general deer season there is need for a cessation of drilling associated activity one day prior to the hunt, and during the first three days of the opening for the hunt, as well as for two days on the second weekend.

John, I appreciate you keeping us advised of such projects. Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment.

Sincerely,

Larry B. Dalton

Wildlife Programs Manager

Resource Analysis/Habitat Protection

cc: Darrell Nish
SERO/Game Management
Lowell Braxton (DOGM)
Rod Player (USFS)